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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/717,221

11/18/2003

Peter Andrea

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, CAO H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2173

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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3 MONTHS

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/717,221

Applicant(s)

ANDREA ET AL.

Examiner

Cao (Kevin) Nguyen

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2173

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 November 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-50 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-50 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5/06.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Taylor et al.(US Patent No. 7,013,431).

Regarding claim 1, Taylor discloses a method for managing applications, comprising displaying a set of applications, said set of applications includes at least a first application and a second application [..typical computer display interfaces, GUI's of single applications, operating system presentation of multiple windows from multiple applications, sources or programming from recorded media, or windows and/or content associated with streaming through the Internet; see col. 2, lines 1-26]; changing a display of said first application [...change to the size or reposition; see col. 4, lines 35-64]; and automatically changing a display of said second application in response to said changing of said display of said first application [..automatically as the selected and/or impacted windows are re-sized, the content of each window may be automatically scaled, preserving "full" visibility of the contents. That is, the contents of the various windows remain in full view, scaled; see col. 5, lines 1-5].

Regarding claim 2, Taylor discloses wherein said step of changing said display of said first application includes changing a size of said display of said first application; and said step

of changing said display of said second application includes changing a position or size of said display of said second application (see col. 6, lines 1-18).

Regarding claim 3, Taylor discloses wherein said step of changing said display of said first application includes changing a position of said display of said first application; and said step of changing said display of said second application includes changing a position or size of said display of said second application (see col. 6, lines 45-61).

Regarding claim 4, Taylor discloses applications each are displayed in a display area that is fixed in size (see col. 7, lines 15-64 and figures 3-4).

Regarding claim 5, Taylor discloses wherein said applications include a third application; and said first application and said second application are displayed within said third application (see col. 10, lines 9-37).

Regarding claim 6, Taylor discloses wherein said step of changing a display of said first application is performed in response to a user dragging a portion of an object (see col. 11, lines 30-62)..

Regarding claim 7, Taylor discloses wherein said step of automatically changing said display of said second application comprises determining an effect of changing said display of said first application on said second application; determining whether said effect is allowed; and changing said display of said second application if said effect is allowed (see col. 12, lines 18-59).

Regarding claim 8, Taylor discloses wherein said step of changing a display of said first application comprises determining whether said changing of said display is allowed (see figures 11-12)

Regarding claim 9, Taylor discloses creating user interface items for said set of applications; creating a layout object for a parent application; providing each user interface item with a pointer to call one or more functions if corresponding applications change; providing displays for said user interface items; and running said corresponding applications (see col. 13, lines 10-56).

Regarding claim 10, Taylor discloses wherein said step of automatically changing said display of said second application comprises determining that a vertical positioning of said display of said first application has changed; and adjusting vertical positioning of siblings to said first application in a vertical relationship with said first application (see figures 12-14).

Regarding claim 11, Taylor discloses wherein said step of automatically changing said display of said second application comprises determining that a horizontal positioning of said display of said first application has changed; and adjusting horizontal positioning of siblings to said first application in a horizontal relationship with said first application (see col.14, lines 25-67).

Regarding claim 12, Taylor discloses wherein said step of automatically changing said display of said second application comprises determining that a width of said display of said first application has changed; changing a column width of a first display column that includes said display of said first application; and changing widths of displays in said first display column based on said column width of said first display column (see col. 11, lines 13-62 and figures 8-10).

Regarding claim 13, Taylor discloses wherein said step of automatically changing said display of said second application comprises determining that a width of said display of said

first application has changed; changing a column width of a first display column that includes said display of said first application; changing widths of displays in said first display column based on said column width of said first display column; changing a column width of a second display column that neighbors said first display column; and changing widths of displays in said second display column based on said column width of said second display column (see figures 2-8).

Regarding claim 14, Taylor discloses wherein said step of automatically changing said display of said second application comprises determining that a vertical size of said display of said first application has changed; dividing remaining area among siblings; and adjusting sizes of siblings based on said step of dividing (see col. 4, lines 19-65).

Regarding claim 15, Taylor discloses wherein said first application is a member of a group, members of said group have a predefined relationship within said group; said step of automatically changing said display of said second application is performed to maintain said predefined relationship (see figures 13-16).

Regarding claim 16, Taylor discloses first application and automatically changing application comprise receiving a selection of said first application; enlarging said display of said first application and placing said display of said first application in a featured location; and resizing and positioning displays of siblings of said first application, including said second application, to fit within an existing space based on a predefined relationship (see col. 6, lines 1-42)

Regarding claim 17, Taylor discloses wherein said steps of changing a display of said first application and automatically changing said display of said second application

comprise determining that said display of said first application will overlap with one or more siblings; determining that displays of said one or more siblings can be resized; and automatically resizing said displays of said one or more siblings to maintain minimum separation (see col. 8, lines 53-67).

Regarding claim 18, Taylor discloses wherein said steps of changing a display of said first application and automatically changing said display of said second application comprise determining that said display of said first application will overlap with one or more siblings; determining that not all displays of said one or more siblings can be resized; and limiting said resizing of said display of said first application so that displays of all overlapping siblings can be resized (see col. 14, lines 10-55 and figures 12-14).

Regarding claim 19, Taylor discloses wherein said steps of changing a display of said first application and automatically changing said display of said second application comprise determining that said display of said first application will overlap with one or more siblings; determining that not all displays of said one or more siblings can be fully resized, partially resizing displays that cannot be fully resized; and resizing neighbors to displays that cannot be fully resized (see figures 3-6).

Regarding claim 20, Taylor discloses said first application and automatically changing said display application comprise removing said display of said first application; and adjusting remaining displays of siblings to said first application based on a proportional size (see col. 6, lines 28-61).

Regarding claim 21, Taylor discloses wherein said steps of changing a display of said first application and automatically changing said display of said second application comprise

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determining whether said display of said first application fits in an existing free space;
determining whether potentially overlapping neighbors for said first application can be moved;
and determining whether potentially overlapping neighbors for said first application can be resized (see col. 12, lines 35-55).

Regarding claim 22, Taylor discloses wherein said steps of changing a display of said first application and automatically changing said display of said second application comprise determining whether said display of said first application fits in an existing free space; determining whether potentially overlapping neighbors for said first application can be moved; automatically moving said potentially overlapping neighbors, display for said second application; and including said adding said display for said first application (see figures 12-14).

Regarding claim 23, Taylor discloses wherein said steps of changing a display of said first application and automatically changing said display of said second application comprise determining whether said display of said first application fits in an existing free space; determining whether potentially overlapping neighbors for said first application can be resized; resizing said potentially overlapping neighbors, including said display for said second application; and adding said display for said first application (see col. 13, lines 10-56).

Regarding claim 24, Taylor discloses wherein step of automatically changing said display of said second application includes preventing said display of said first application from overlapping with said display of said second application (see col. 14, lines 10-45).

Regarding claim 25, Taylor discloses wherein said step of automatically changing said display of said second application includes determining that said display of said second

application is below a predetermined size threshold and changing said display of said second application into an icon (see col. 6, lines 62-67 and figures 2-3).

Regarding claim 26, Taylor discloses displaying a set of applications in a display area, said set of applications includes at least a first application and a second application; changing a size or position of said first application; and automatically changing a size or position of said second application in response to said changing of said size or position of said first application so that display of said first application does not conflict with display of said second application (see col. 6, lines 43-61 and figures 2-3).

As claims 27-32 are analyzed as previously discussed with respect to claims 9-13 above.

Regarding claim 33, Taylor discloses receiving a request to change a display of a first application displayed in a display area; determining how one or more displays for one or more other applications should change in response to changing said display of said first application in order to avoid conflict with said display of said first application (see figures 2-4); changing said display of said first application; and automatically changing said one or more displays for said one or more other applications that should change in response to changing said display of said first application in order to avoid conflict with said display of said first application (see figures 12-14).

Regarding claim 34, Taylor discloses wherein said step of receiving a request includes a user dragging a portion of a window (see col. 11, lines 40-62)

Regarding claim 35, Taylor discloses wherein said conflict to be avoided includes avoiding said display of said first application overlapping with said one or more displays for said one or more other applications that should change (see figures 13-14).

Regarding claim 36, Taylor discloses wherein said conflict to be avoided includes avoiding said display of said first application overlapping, in a manner that is not allowed, with said one or more displays for said one or more other applications that should change (see col. 12, lines 18-59).

Regarding claim 37, Taylor discloses wherein said step of determining includes determining how to adjust said one or more displays for said one or more other applications to avoid said display of said first application overlapping with said one or more displays for said one or more other applications (see figures 12-14).

Regarding claim 38, Taylor discloses further comprising determining whether said change to said display of said first application is allowed; and denying said change to said display of said first application if said change to said display of said first application is not allowed (see col. 13, lines 10-56).

Regarding claim 39, Taylor discloses wherein said one or more other applications includes a second application; and said step of changing said one or more displays for said one or more other applications includes determining how to change a display of said second application to avoid overlapping with said display of said first application, determining that said change to said display of said second application is not allowed and denying said change to said display of said first application (see figures 13-14).

Regarding claim 40, Taylor discloses one or more other applications includes a second application; and said step of changing said one or more displays for said one or more other applications includes determining how to change a display of said second application to avoid overlapping with said display of said first application, determining that said change to said display of said second application causes said display of said second application to become too small and changing said display of said second application to an icon in response to determining that said change to said display of said second application causes said display of said second application to become too small (see col. 10, lines 8-64).

As claims 41-50 are analyzed as previously discussed with respect to claims 33-40 above.

Conclusion


The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure (see PTO-892).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cao (Kevin) Nguyen whose telephone number is (571)272-4053. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeza can be reached on (571)272-4048. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Cao (Kevin) Nguyen
Primary Examiner
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01/04/07